IN THE CLAIMS

1-27. (canceled)

28. (currently amended) A composition comprising a cell in which a molecular complex is bound to the surface of the cell, wherein the molecular complex comprises at least two first fusion proteins and at least two second ~~four~~ fusion proteins, wherein:

(a) each of the two first fusion proteins comprises ~~comprise~~ an immunoglobulin heavy chain, wherein the immunoglobulin heavy chain comprises a variable region, and an extracellular portion of a first transmembrane polypeptide; and

(b) each of the two second fusion proteins comprises ~~comprise~~ an immunoglobulin light chain and an extracellular portion of a second transmembrane polypeptide;

wherein the at least two first fusion proteins and the at least two second fusion proteins associate to form ~~a~~ the molecular complex, wherein the molecular complex comprises two ligand binding sites, wherein each ligand binding site is formed by the extracellular domain ~~domains~~ of ~~a~~ the first transmembrane polypeptide and the extracellular domain of a second transmembrane polypeptide ~~polypeptides~~, wherein the affinity of the molecular complex for a cognate ligand is increased at least two-fold over a dimeric molecular complex consisting of ~~a~~ the first and ~~a~~ the second fusion protein.

29. (original) The composition of claim 28 wherein the first transmembrane polypeptide is an MHC class IIβ chain and wherein the second transmembrane polypeptide is an MHC class IIα chain.

30. (original) The composition of claim 28 wherein the first transmembrane polypeptide is a TCR α chain and wherein the second transmembrane polypeptide is a TCR β chain.

31. (original) The composition of claim 28 further comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

32. (previously amended) The composition of claim 28 wherein a population of the molecular complexes is bound to the cell, wherein an identical antigenic peptide is bound to each ligand binding site.

33-50. (canceled)

51. (previously added) The composition of claim 28 wherein the immunoglobulin heavy chain is an IgG1 heavy chain.

52. (previously added) The composition of claim 28 wherein the immunoglobulin light chain is an Igκ chain.

53. (previously added) The composition of claim 28 wherein the first fusion proteins comprise a first peptide linker between the immunoglobulin heavy chain and the extracellular domain of the first transmembrane polypeptide and wherein the second fusion proteins comprise a second peptide linker between the immunoglobulin light chain and the extracellular domain of the second transmembrane polypeptide.

54. (previously added) The composition of claim 53 wherein the first peptide linker is GLY-GLY-GLY-THR-SER-GLY (SEQ ID NO:10).

55. (previously added) The composition of claim 53 wherein the second peptide linker is GLY-SER-LEU-GLY-GLY-SER (SEQ ID NO:11).

56. (previously amended) The composition of claim 32 wherein the antigenic peptides are bound to the ligand binding sites by a method comprising the step of:

incubating the cell in the presence of the antigenic peptides, whereby the antigenic peptides are bound to the ligand binding sites.

57. (previously amended) The composition of claim 32 wherein the antigenic peptides are bound to the ligand binding sites by a method comprising the steps of:

(a) alkaline stripping of the molecular complex to provide an alkaline stripped molecular complex;

(b) neutralization of the alkaline stripped molecular complex to provide a neutralized molecular complex;

(c) incubation of the neutralized molecular complex in the presence of an excess of the antigenic peptides; and

(c) slow refolding of the neutralized molecular complex in the presence of the excess of the antigenic peptides.

58. (previously added) The composition of claim 32 wherein the antigenic peptides are covalently bound.

59. (previously added) The composition of claim 28 wherein the molecular complex is conjugated to a toxin.

60. (previously amended) The composition of claim 28 wherein the molecular complex is conjugated to a lymphokine or other effector molecule which stimulates an immune response.